

Foothill Transit Governing Board

MINUTES

The Special meeting of the Foothill Transit Governing Board was held Thursday October 14, 2010, at the Foothill Transit Board Room, 2nd Floor, 100 South Vincent Avenue, West Covina.

Chair Chandler called the meeting to order at 7:53 a.m. The following members were present, constituting a quorum:

Corey Calaycay
Robert F. Rodriguez
Paula Lantz
Tony Cartagena
Keith Hanks
Marlen Garcia
Peggy A. Delach
Roger Chandler
Richard G. Barakat

John Fasana
Becky A. Shevlin
Margaret McAustin
Carol Herrera
Emily Ishigaki
Hector Delgado
Patricia Wallach
David C. Rodriguez

Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Chandler led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF MAY 19, 2010

The minutes for the Governing Board meeting of May 19, 2010, were approved with the following change:

Page 4, under "Reconvene and Announce Executive Board Member and Alternate for Cluster 5," second paragraph revised to read: "Councilmember Roger Chandler of Arcadia announced that the Executive Board Member selected to represent Cluster 5 is Councilmember Patricia Wallach and the Alternate is ~~Councilmember~~ Member Michael De La Torre."

Motion: Treasurer Delach, seconded by Member Lantz

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Document\)](#)

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

FOOTHILL TRANSIT ECOLINER UPDATE

Lauren Cochran, Senior Operation Analyst, reported the following:

- The Ecoliner's introduction on September 3, 2010, was held at Foothill Transit's Pomona operations and maintenance division and drew guests from all over the nation and around the globe. Notable attendees included Therese McMillan, Deputy Administrator of the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Congressmen John Mica, David Drier, and Congresswoman Grace Napolitano. In addition to industry peers, several local and state elected officials were in attendance to celebrate this most auspicious occasion.
- The Ecoliners were placed into revenue "shadow" service the following Wednesday, September 9, 2010, and have been in operation on Line 291 since. The Ecoliners are also in operation on other selectively chosen Foothill Transit routes to determine the feasibility of expanding the Foothill Transit electric bus program.
- The Pomona Transit Center (PTC) was closed from September 27, 2010 until October 4, 2010, for major charging station construction. All four chargers (two sets) were accepted by Foothill Transit and are scheduled for delivery to the charging station before November 22, 2010, the anticipated construction completion date.
- To assure zero emissions, Green E – certified renewable energy certifications (RECs) were purchased in September through broker "3Degrees", an organization specializing in hydroelectric, solar, tidal, and wind electric generation support. By purchasing RECs, Foothill Transit is able to claim true zero emissions for the Ecoliner project. RECs offset the energy used to charge the Ecoliner at the PTC by supporting an equal number of clean kilowatt hours generated elsewhere.
- At the request of Congressman James Oberstar, Chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure (T & I) Committee, on Wednesday, September 29, 2010, Executive Director Doran Barnes testified before the T & I Committee regarding Foothill Transit's progress in implementing ARRA dollars. Mr. Barnes, accompanied by Chair Chandler, spoke specifically about the success of the Ecoliner project, which also enabled the creation of over forty jobs.
- The Ecoliner was featured at the annual American Public Transit Association (APTA) Conference in San Antonio, Texas, where hundreds of participants were shuttled on the Ecoliner, including APTA President Bill Millar and Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Chief Peter Rogoff.
- This week the Ecoliner will be on display at The Pentagon in Washington, DC, to be followed two weeks later at Disney Imagineering's Open House event in Glendale, California.

The Governing Board received and filed the Foothill Transit Ecoliner Update.

Motion: Member Calaycay, seconded by Chair Chandler

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Document\)](#)

PROPOSITION 22 UPDATE

David Reyno, Director of Government Relations, introduced Joshua Shaw, Executive Director, California Transit Association (CTA), who is one of the leading statewide policy transportation advocates. Mr. Shaw provided supplemental information in support of Proposition 22. [\(See Supporting Document\)](#)

Mr. Shaw reported the following:

- The California Transit Association is a volunteer-driven organization and has benefitted greatly from Foothill Transit personnel serving in supervisory capacities for the Association.
- In the course of ten years the state of California has diverted over \$5 billion earmarked for Public Transportation Account (PTA) funds. Proposition 22 (Prop. 22), the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010, is designed to protect annual revenues from diversion.
- Prop. 22 requires that sales tax on diesel fuel shall be deposited quarterly into the PTA. This revenue source has produced an average of \$350 million per year since 2007-2008. The Department of Finance estimates this source should generate \$431 million in 2011-2012.
- Prop. 22, in addition, requires that half of core PTA revenues be spent on the State Transit Assistance (STA) Program, which can fund either transit operations or transit capital projects, and requires the other half of these core revenues to be spent on the historic state, regional and local transit purposes funded on the budget, such as the intercity rail program, or transit capital projects in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) and Interregional Transportation Improvement Program (ITIP).
- Prop. 22 prohibits State legislature from interfering in any way with locally imposed taxes, including half-cent sales taxes dedicated to transit and transportation purposes. This prevents the State from the use of the proceeds, reallocation to another agency, restricts how local government from using the proceeds or borrow them.
- If approved by the voters, Prop. 22 would protect nearly \$1.8 billion per year in PTA and Transportation Development Act (TDA) funding for public transportation.

- Funding for advertising Prop. 22 has been limited and there has been a resistant campaign from the California Teachers Association, the Professional Firefighters Association, and the California Nurses Association.

Following discussion, the Governing Board received and filed the Proposition 22 update.

Motion: Member Wallach, seconded by Member Delach

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Document\)](#)

2010 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

David Reyno, Director of Government Relations, provided an update on the October 2010 Legislative Summary. Mr. Reyno reported on the following bills that have been signed into law:

- SB 1320, which several transit agencies including Foothill Transit support, will impose and enforce civil administrative penalties for fare evasion and passenger misconduct violations committed by non-minor passengers in lieu of criminal penalties.
- AB 2324 makes it a misdemeanor to carry weapons and/or engage in other dangerous activities in a public transit facility.
- AB 987 authorizes a city or county to create a transit village plan for a transit village development district. A transit village development district is required to include all land within not less than ¼ mile of the exterior boundary of the parcel on which is located a transit station, as defined.
- SB 82 increasing the ceiling that community college districts are authorized to charge students and district employees for combined parking and transportation costs.

In Washington, D.C., the U.S. House of Representatives and the Senate are expected to return for a "lame duck" session on November 15, 2010, to continue consideration of the unfinished FY 2011 appropriations bills. Congress must also further extend current surface transportation authorizing law, which expires on December 31, 2010, during the lame duck session.

The Governing Board received and filed the October 2010 Legislative Summary. There are no recommended positions on bills this month.

Motion: Member Fasana, seconded by Member Calaycay

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Document\)](#)

FY 2011 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Richard Hasenohrl, Director of Finance, reported that the results of the current fiscal year have been favorable through the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2010. Fare revenues are 11% more than the budgeted amount and expenditures 4.5% less than budgeted, placing Foothill Transit in a strong position to achieve its budget for Fiscal Year 2011.

The farebox recovery ratio, an indication of profitability is 27.92% for the current Fiscal Year. This translates into a reduced need for grant funding to maintain the same level of service. This improved farebox recovery ratio is a result of the service adjustment to reduce or eliminate unproductive service, and the fare increase implemented in the previous fiscal year.

The FY 2011-12 budget will be similar to the current budget with cost increases of 2% or less for all expenditures, except for operator contractors and revenues at current levels. One operator contract will lapse on February 2, 2012, requiring a formal bid process to secure a new service contract. Currently, it is not possible to estimate any potential change in these costs. Should revenues decrease because of the economic crisis, or cost increase because of a new service contractor, Foothill Transit's FY 2010-2011 surplus of \$4 million will be sufficient to balance the FY 2011-12 budget.

The Governing Board received and filed the Financial Summary for Fiscal Year 2011.

Motion: Treasurer Delach, seconded by Member Calaycay

Vote: Unanimously carried

[\(See Supporting Document\)](#)

FISCAL YEAR 2011 BUDGET ADJUSTMENT

Richard Hasenohrl, Director of Finance, reported that Foothill Transit submitted a grant application to the Southern California Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) for additional funding for the Electric Bus project and was subsequently awarded a grant for \$290,000. \$80,000 is earmarked for capital expenditures, while the remaining \$210,000 is budgeted for operating costs, which include project testing, analysis, evaluation, and the preparation of reports for the AQMD. These costs were anticipated and are included in the current Fiscal Year 2010-11 budget, and are eligible for reimbursement from the AQMD grant.

The AQMD grant also includes additional capital funding of \$80,000 for portable electric bus charging equipment and training.

The Governing Board approved the following recommendations:

1. Increase estimated grant revenues by \$290,000;
2. Increase the Electric Bus Project Capital Budget by \$80,000; and,
3. Replace \$210,000 in estimated local revenues with \$210,000 in AQMD funding.

Motion: Member Fasana, seconded by Member Hanks
Vote: Unanimously carried
([See Supporting Document](#))

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENT

Doran Barnes, Executive Director that Foothill Transit will retire its last diesel coach, paving the way for more Electric Buses, and that he was re-elected to serve for a third term as Chair of the Executive Board of APTA.

Mr. Barnes congratulated LaShawn Gillespie for being featured in "Mass Transit Magazine" placing in the "Top 40 Transit Professionals Under the Age of 40."

GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER COMMENT

Member Wallach announced that the City of El Monte will host a press conference today, October 14, 2010, at 10:00 a.m. at the Los Angeles County Fire Station 166 regarding State Budget takeaways.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Governing Board adjourned at 8:52 a.m.

Staff and Guests present:

Doran Barnes, Executive Director
Kevin McDonald, Deputy Executive Director
Darold Pieper, Legal Counsel
LaShawn Gillespie, Director of Planning
David Reyno, Director of Government Relations
Richard Hasenohrl, Director of Finance
Lauren Cochran, Senior Operation Analyst
Linda Sommilea, Director of Marketing & Communications
George Karbowski, Director of Operations & Maintenance
Jaime Becerra, Director of Safety & Security
Dietter Aragon, Planning Manager
Felicia Friesema, Marketing & Communications Manager
Joshua Shaw, California Transit Association
Martha Arana, Commission Services Staff